IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Please cancel claims 13-14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

1. (original) Device for injecting (8) a treatment gas into a molten metal contained in a tank (1), the said device being designed to be fixed in one of the walls (2) of the tank and comprising at least one injection nozzle (18) equipped with an end hole (19), characterised in that it comprises a mobile means (14) that can be manoeuvred from outside the injection device and capable of unblocking the said end hole of the nozzle.

2. (original) Injection device (8) according to claim 1, characterised in that the mobile means (14) is capable of passing through the end hole (19).

3. (currently amended) Injection device (8) according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that the said mobile means comprises a rod (14) installed free to slide inside the nozzle (18), the said rod being capable of passing from a rest position in which it is set back from the end hole (19) so as to enable passage of the treatment gas, to an advanced position.

4. (original) Injection device (8) according to claim 3, characterised in that, in the advanced position, the rod (14) emerges from the end hole (19).

5. (currently amended) Injection device (8) according to claim 3 ~~or 4~~, characterised in that the rod (14) comprises an upstream part that is firstly capable of passing through one end of the nozzle (18) opposite the end hole (19), while maintaining leak tightness, and secondly is equipped with a manual control device (20).

LAW OFFICES
DENNISON, SCHULTZ, DOUGHERTY & MACDONALD
SUITE 105
1727 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-2700
703 837-9600

6. (original) Injection device (8) according to claim 5, characterised in that the manual control device comprises a handle (20).

7. (currently amended) Injection device (8) according to either claims 5 ~~or 6~~, characterised in that it comprises an elastic element (22) which holds the rod (14) in the rest position.

8. (currently amended) Injection device (8) according to claim 3 ~~or 4~~, characterised in that an automated control device is connected to the rod (14).

9. (currently amended) Injection device (8) according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 8~~ claim 3, characterised in that the nozzle (18) contains at least one rod guidance means (14).

10. Injection device according to claim 9, characterised in that the guidance means is composed of a ring presenting a central hole and peripheral holes.

11. (currently amended) Injection device (8) according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 10~~ claim 3, characterised in that the cross section or diameter of the rod (14) decreases along the direction of the end hole (19) of the nozzle (18).

12. (currently amended) Treatment tank (1) for a molten metal, characterised in that it comprises at least one gas injection device (8) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1.

Claims 13-14 (canceled).

LAW OFFICES
DENNISON, SCHULTZ, DOUGHERTY & MACDONALD
SUITE 105
1727 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-2700
703 837-9600